

Message Text

PAGE 01 CASABL 00422 090829 Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10

SS-15 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 RSR-01 /197 W

----- 043348

R 081635 Z JUNE 73

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2207

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USINT ALGIERS

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 0422

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, MO

SUBJECT: MAGHREB TRADE UNIONS STEP UP CONTACTS

1. SUMMARY: THERE ARE INDICATIONS OF INCREASED TRADE UNION CONTACT BETWEEN STATES OF ARAB AFRICA. END SUMMARY.
2. IN RECENT WEEKS WE HAVE NOTICED AN INCREASE IN CONTACT BETWEEN THE TRADE UNIONS OF ARAB AFRICA. THIS INCREASE SEEMS TO GO BEYOND THE ANNUAL PRE- GENEVA FLURRY. FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT THIS CONTACT NECESSARILY FOCUSES ON UMT SECGEN AND AATUF PRESIDENT MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK.
3. FOLLOWING ARE OF NOTE:
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CASABL 00422 090829 Z

A. BEN SEDDIK SAYS HE HAS CORRESPONDED WITH UGTT' S HABIB ACHOUR SINCE ACHOUR' S OATUU WALKOUT. HE HAS GIVEN GREAT CREDENCE AND PUBLICITY TO ACHOUR' S REPORTS OF OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE DURING OATUU CONVENTION. IN PAST, MAHJOUB HAS

BEEN EXTREMELY CRITICAL OF ACHOUR. THEY ARE STILL MILES APART IDEOLOGICALLY, BUT THEY NOW HAVE A COMMON VIEW ON A KEY ISSUE.

B. BEN SEDDIK ATTENDED AND ADDRESSED RECENT UGTA CONGRESS IN ALGIERS. UPON HIS RETURN TO CASABLANCA HE TOLD LABOFF OF GOA EFFORTS TO REVIVE UGTA AND SAID ALGERIAN UNION WAS MOVING FORWARD. THIS IS A MARKED CHANGE FROM HIS EARLIER ACCUSATIONS THAT WHAT LITTLE THERE WAS TO THE UGTA WAS A MERE "PRISONER OF FLN." SEC GEN BENIKOUS ATTENDED MID- MAY AATUF MEETING IN CASABLANCA.

C. LIBYAN TRADE UNION (UGTRAL) SENT RELATIVELY LARGE THREE- MAN DELEGATION TO CASABLANCA MEETING, PROVIDING RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR MOROCCAN- LIBYAN DIALOGUE ON TRADE UNION LEVEL. UMT DEPSEC GEN ABDERRAZAK WENT TO CONSIDERABLE EFFORT OBTAIN GOM AGREEMENT ADMIT LIBYAN DELEGATION, AND UMT PRESS PRINTED BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATION HEAD DALI FITOURI. LIBYANS DO NOT NORMALLY RECEIVE THIS SORT OF TREATMENT IN MOROCCO THESE DAYS.

D. EGYPTIAN UNION SENT TWO- MAN DELEGATION TO CASABLANCA MEETING. BEN SEDDIK HAS MAINTAINED THAT EGYPTIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT, THOUGH HARDLY INDEPENDENT, IS NEVERTHELESS THRIVING.

4. WE ARE NOT SPECULATING THAT SOME SPECTACULAR MOVE UNITING ARAB TRADE UNIONS FROM MOROCCO TO EGYPT IS IMMINENT. YET CONTACTS ARE INCREASING AT TIME WHEN AATUF APPEARS THREATENED BY OATUU. OATUU ISSUE MAY WELL HAVE UNIFYING EFFECT ON MAGHREB UNIONS. BEN SEDDIK HAS MORE THAN ONCE EXPRESSED HIS FRUSTRATION WITH AATUF; HE GIVES NO IMPORTANCE TO ICATU. HE RECENTLY TOLD LABOFF THAT MAGHREB TRADE UNION UNITY DIFFICULT IN VIEW DIVERGENT ECONOMIC SYSTEMS IN AREA AND WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE. STILL, WE THINK THE CONCEPT MAY BE LOOMING TANTALIZINGLY IN THE MIDDLE DISTANCE OF HIS FERTILE
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CASABL 00422 090829 Z

IMAGINATION. RECIPIENT POSTS COMMENTS WELCOME.
NELSON

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CASABL00422
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CASABLANCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730634/abqceait.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <16-Oct-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAGHREB TRADE UNIONS STEP UP CONTACTS
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, MO
To: STATE INFO ADDIS ABABA
ALGIERS
CAIRO
GENEVA
PARIS
RABAT
TRIPOLI

TUNIS

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005